



PATENT
450101-2980.2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Tsuyoshi Oda

Serial No. : 09/474,479

Filed : December 29, 1999

For : **PICTURE ENCODING METHOD, PICTURE
ENCODING APPARATUS AND PICTURE
RECORDING MEDIUM**

RECEIVED
JUL 30 2003

Examiner : Anand Shashikant Rao

Technology Center 2600

Art Unit : 2613

745 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10151

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 22, 2003.

Dennis M. Smid, Reg. No. 34,930

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative


Signature

July 22, 2003

Date of Signature

AMENDMENT

**Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 22, 2003, please amend the above-referenced application as follows: